(e) whether any refugees have left India since cease-fire was declared in Sri Lanka;

(f) if so, their number; and

(g) what steps Government propose to take to ensure that the Government of Sri Lanka share the expenditure on the refugees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) According to information received from Government of Tamil Nadu, the total number of refugees who are arrived in India from Sri Lanka since July 1983 is 100,527;

(b) Total expenditure incurred on both repatriates and refugees from Sri Lanka up to February 1985, was Rs. 84.10 crores. Since 4-2-1985, when accounts of expenditure on refugees have been separately maintained, a sum of Rs. 1.28 crores has been spent on refugees up to 20-5-85. Information on the amount spent upto 30-6-85 is being collected.

(c) There are at present two permanent refugee camps at Mandapam and Kottapattu. Refugees are also housed in many buildings|temporary camps in 11 other districts of Tamil Nadu.

(d) No permanent camp has been opened recently.

(e) We have no information about any refugees having left India.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) The matter is receiving consideration.

Conference on the Indian Ocean Marine Affairs

360. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

SHRI L. GANESAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the attempt of Sri Lankan Government to convene a conference on the Indian Ocean Marine Affairs;

(b) whether any preparatory meeting was held; if, time, venue and the details of the meeting;

(c) whether the Government of India's representatives also attended the meeting;

(d) when further meetings are expected to be held in this regard; and

(e) what is the reaction of Government of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Sri Lanka has recently taken the initiative to convene a Conference on economic, scientific and technical cooperation in the Indian Ocean in the field of Marine Affairs, in the context of the new Ocean Regime. A preparatory meeting was held in Colombo (Sri Lanka) from 4th to 5th June 1985 attended by 18 delegations mostly represented by their Missions in Colombo. The Conference itself was scheduled for July 15-20, 1985. For the July 1985 meeting, Sri Lanka had invited 46 littoral and hinterland States, 19 major maritime users (including the five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council) and 22 international agencies. The Indian Mission in Sri Lanka participated in the meeting of the Preparatory Commitee held in June. The Govern-

ment of India however, have since decided not to participate in the July meeting.

The Government of India is of the view that any conference in the vital field of marine affairs relating to the Indian Oceon has to be carefully prepared in terms of the objectives which have to be defined through an extensive process of consultations, particularly of all the littoral States of the region. It would not be possible for a Conference to be successful without the development of consensus, based on such consultations. An overwhelming percentage of marine and living resources of interest to littoral States, which could be exploited within the technologies available to these countries, are located in areas within national jurisdictions. At the moment, the main priority has necessarily to be on efforts at achieving the convening of the Conference on the implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. This Conference is of prime importance. Nothing should be done which could result in a setback to this main objective.

Construction of Hotel at Madras Airport

361. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to unstarred question 1702 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th May, 1985 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that ITDC/the Hotel Corporation of India/the Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation or any private agencies have expressed a wish to construct a hotel at Madras airport;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether any survey or study was conducted in the past on the feasibility of a hotel project at Madras airport;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) Indian Airlines have a proposal to construct a Flight Kitchen-*cum*-Hotel at Madras Airport with Technical and Management Consultancy provided by the I.T.D.C.

Approval has been granted by the Department of Tourism to the construction of a 160 room, 5-star hotel project near Madras airport. The promoters. M/s. Pleasant Hotels Limited, are collaborating with Ramada Hotel Chain, U K. in this project.

(c) to (e) Indian Airlines and ITDC jointly carried out a sample survey of air passengers arriving at Madras Airport to determine the requirement of hotel accommodation at Madras. The Survey has revealed shortage of 5-star hotel accommodation of over 200 rooms over and above the existing 5-star hotels.

Talks between the Prime Minister of India and Sri Lankan President on Tamil Issue

362. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

SHRI SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA:

SHRI ALADL ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the outcome of the talks held between him and the President of Sri Lanka during the latter's visit;

(b) the details of the draft that has been prepared subsequently after talks with the special envoy of the President of Sri Lanka; and